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farthing per mile for each passenger, and performing daily 3800 miles. They pass through more than 140 stations for the change of horses; consuming 3 to 4000 tons of hay, and from 30 to 40,000 barrels of oats annually; all of which are purchased in their respective localities. These vehicles do not travel on Sundays, unless such portions of them as are in connexion with the post office or canals, for the following reasons: first, the Irish, being a religious people, will not travel on business on Sundays; and secondly, experience teaches me that I can work a horse eight miles per day for six days in the week much better than I can six miles for seven days. The advantages derived by the country from this establishment are almost incalculable; for instance, the farmer who formerly rode and spent three days in making his market, can now do so in one, for a few shillings, thereby saving two clear days, and the expense and use of his horse. The example of this institution has been generally followed, and cars innumerable leave the interior for the principal towns in the south of Ireland, conveying parties to and from markets at an enormous saving of time, and in many instances cheaper than they could walk it. This establishment has now been in existence twenty-eight years, travelling with its mails at all hours of the day and night, and has never met with any interruption in the performance of its arduous duties. Much surprise has often been expressed at the high order of men connected with it, and at its popularity; but parties thus expressing themselves forget to look at Irish society with sufficient grasp. For my part I cannot better compare it than to a man emerging into convalescence from a serious attack of malignant fever, and requiring generous and nutritive diet in place of medical treatment. Thus I act with my drivers, who are taken from the lowest grade of the establishment, and who are progressively advanced according to their respective merits, as opportunity offers, and who know that nothing can deprive them of this reward, and a superannuated allowance of their full wages in old age and under accident, unless deprived of it by their own wilful and improper conduct; and as to its popularity, I never yet attempted to do an act of generosity or common justice, publicly or privately, that I was not repaid tenfold. In conclusion, Mr. Bianconi regretted that the shortness of the notice which he had received to meet the Association should have rendered it impossible for him to prepare a document more ample in details and more worthy of the Section.

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*Report on the Sanatory Condition of Certain Parts of the City of Cork.*

By HENRY BIGGS, Esq.

[*Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at Cork, 19th Aug. 1843.*]

MR. BIGGS laid before the Section tables in which he had registered the results of his investigations as to the sanatory condition of three selected streets in the city of Cork, as indicated by the illness to which their inhabitants stated themselves to have been subject during the past year; one being a good street, one of a medium character, and one among the most confined in the city; the first comprising some of the professional classes, the second only shop-keepers, and the latter labourers only. The accompanying table shows some of the results.

Places.	Length.	Breadth.	Number of Houses.	Number of Houses Inhabited.	Number of Families.	Number of Individuals.	Greatest Number Sleeping in One Room.	Number who have been Sick during the last Twelve Months.	Number of Families of Cleanly Habits.
That part of South Mall from Princes-street westward . . . . .	392	50	20	16	16	121	4	6	15
Castle-street . . . . .	289	20	26	23	25	176	5	9	24
Pike's-lane — North Main Street . . . . .	176	4	8	8	33	145	7	42	5
.. .. .	..	..	54	47	74	442	..	57	44

The formidable character of the diseases prevailing in the poorer locality he found to be no less remarkable than the excess of their prevalence; pleurisy, fever, rheumatism, and diarrhœa being common. Among the 6 cases of illness in the best street, the total number of days' confinement to bed was 116; among the 9 in the second, 59; and among the 42 in the third, 389: being, on an average to each case, 9 days in the worst locality;  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in the better street; and most of all in the best, owing to the disturbance of the result by two cases, one of accident and the other of continuous feebleness, which, in so few cases, sufficed entirely to conceal any general law. The following are the observations attached by Mr. Biggs to the tables in which his observations at each house were registered:—

The city of Cork has been improving in a sanatory point of view for some years past. This year it is much more healthy than for many years; perhaps it may be said, much more than it was ever known in the recollection of any one now living. Disease is supposed by medical men to have decreased one-fourth, as compared with last year. Several causes have been assigned to account for this, among which are the following:—

1. The opening of some confined streets and lanes, whereby fresh currents of air from the west are allowed more freely to circulate through the lower parts of the city.

2. The exertions of officers of health in some parishes, who have removed nuisances and improved the condition of narrow lanes out of doors by cleansing and whitewashing.

3. Flagging the lanes (even more important than improved paving in the streets, which has also been attended to by the Wide Street Commissioners) is a material improvement, and has produced its full effect in causing water to flow off, which would soon have mixed with other substances and become putrid.

4. Temperance, under the personal care of the Rev. Mr. Duncombe, and subsequently to a much more enlarged extent the Rev. Mr. Mathew, has no doubt greatly tended to diminish the causes of disease and greatly increase the comfort and order of the lower classes and their families within doors.

5. A better and more abundant supply of good water, fit for both culinary uses and washing, within the last year, in place of the use of common river water, is a most important feature ; pumps and fountains having been erected lately in convenient positions for the use of the poorer classes.

6. The erection of new and improved dwelling-houses, and the spread of the city on the rising ground on all sides far beyond the ratio of increase in the population, have at once afforded more airy and agreeable residences, and given employment to numbers of the citizens. The marshy ground within the bounds of the city has been built upon, and the insalubrity consequent on such a condition of the ground done away with. Ague may be said to have left Cork.

7. Water communication by steam and otherwise has been made more available and more agreeable than formerly, whereby almost all classes, in great numbers, have been enabled to benefit by the bracing air from the sea in our extensive and safe harbour and river.

8. The cheapness and convenience of land conveyance by cars, open and covered, has made it increasingly available. A rough calculation makes the amount expended in conveyance by cars and travellers registered in Cork, no less than 30,000*l.* per annum.

There are also causes of a permanent nature which induce health in Cork, and afford a good basis for every kind of sanatory improvement.

1. Rain falls in large quantities in Cork, which, although it appears to make it more dirty, really cleanses every part of the city.

2. Drainage is of a superior and enlarged kind in Cork, from the circumstance of the city at its original formation having been built on the Dutch plan, every large street extending along the sides of one of those natural channels which intersect the flat of the city in every direction.

3. Its natural position, in an extensive plane between two ranges of parallel hills of various height and aspect, running east and west, with the beautiful river Lea passing through it in two channels, and enlarging to the breadth of a mile a little below it, thence flowing with enlarging and increasing beauty until it merges into one of the largest harbours, and perhaps the safest, in the world.

4. The pleasant walks, easily accessible in a few minutes from any part of the city, more particularly the Mardyke, a gravelled walk lined with large trees, perfectly straight, and an English mile in length ; and the Navigation Wall, a broad walk stretching down the river for more than that distance.

Some heads of further improvement still required to remove existing causes of evil, however, claim an express notice.

1. The appointment of officers of health in every parish, which has not been done generally.

2. Further improvements in supplying the poorer classes with water, which are in contemplation.

3. An alteration in the hours of labour in the trade of bakers, who now work at night. This single evil is not a trifling one, as it tends to disarrange and demoralize the families of those who are thus employed ; of which result a respectable medical authority states, that in this city his practice supplies him with indubitable evidence, in the excess of one form of disease among the persons thus employed.

4. The plan of the authorities offering and awarding premiums for the best kept and cleanest dwelling-room from time to time might be beneficially adopted.

5. A plan which could not fail to benefit the labouring classes, and to prove at the same time a way of profitably investing money, would be to fit up or build large comfortable and airy houses, in wholesome situations, for the purpose of inducing the great mass of the lower orders to leave the miserable and narrow dwellings which they now inhabit. As a room-keeper pays more, in proportion, for his abode than any other person, this is a feasible mode of improving the condition of the labouring population in this and other cities.

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*Further Contributions to Academical Statistics.* By the Rev. Professor POWELL, M.A., F.R.S.

[*Read before the Statistical Section of the British Association, 17th Aug., 1843.*]

THE following details refer solely to the first examinations at Oxford, called "Responsions," which takes place at the end of the first year of academical residence, and the passing of which is an indispensable preliminary for becoming afterwards a candidate for a degree, that is, in general, for continuing in the University. The column of matriculations is taken from the author's communications in the Reports of the British Association for 1839 and 1842. The number of candidates being in general greater than that of the matriculations, arises from the circumstance of many offering themselves a second, or even a third time, after failure or withdrawal on a previous occasion. The mean results may show generally the proportion of those who, either failing or withdrawing at this examination, do not go through more than the first portion of their academical course. But no exact proportion can be assigned, owing to the circumstance just mentioned.

Year.	Matriculated.	Candidates for Responsions.	Passed.	Failed.	Withdrawn.
1832	377	415	308	51	56
1833	384	420	325	42	53
1834	360	379	307	29	43
1835	369	395	292	45	58
1836	369	420	311	56	53
1837	421	431	295	73	63
1838	393	489	336	107	46
1839	404	483	375	70	38
1840	396	408	326	53	29
1841	441	412	338	40	34
Mean .	391	425	321	57	47

See "Statistics of the University of Oxford," in Volume V. of the Journal, p. 235.